UTHERAN MEN

April 1960

PACIFIC LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY THE LIBRARY

ppy Birthday, BSA

agazine of United Lutheran Church Men

Son . . .

Have you considered the ministry?

You should

† **You are a Christian**

† **You are needed**

† **You may be qualified**

For free information and counsel about the Lutheran ministry write:

THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
The United Lutheran Church in America
231 Madison Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

PRIL 1960
OL. 41 No. 4

LUTHERAN MEN

Magazine of United Lutheran Church Men

ditor

GEORGE R. F. TAMKE
328 South Market Street
Selinsgrove, Pa.

Send all News, Articles and Stories for Publication here. Material must be in the hands of the Editor by the first of the month prior to the month in which it is to appear.

usiness Manager

HOWARD L. LOGAN
231 Madison Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

Send Subscriptions, Advertisements, Changes of Address here.

Vriters

CHARLES W. BYERS
LAWRENCE M. REESE

ıblished monthly at Kutztown, Pa., United Lutheran Church Men. Enred as second class matter April 30, 23, at the Post Office at Kutztown, ı., under the Act of March 3, 1879. ceptance for mailing at special te of postage provided for in Secon 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, thorized April 30, 1923.

Printed in the United States

ıbscription ..... $2.00 a year

Contents

Seeking a Breakthrough for the Ministry 4
by Vernon L. Strempke

Marion 8
by Paul G. Peterson

Man to Man 11
by Lawrence M. Reese

News of Men and Their Activities 13

Views from Headquarters 18
by Howard L. Logan

Scouting 21
by Charles W. Byers

ULCM Honorary Life Memberships 24

The Sermon's Place in Worship (TOPIC) 26
by Albert H. Keck, Jr.

COVER: All over the country they're saying "Happy Birthday" these days to the Boy Scouts of America, celebrating its 50th anniversary in 1960. See story on page 22 about the celebration illustrated on our cover.

PICTURE CREDIT: Page 17, *National Lutheran Council.*

Seeking a Breakthrough for the Ministry

by VERNON L. STREMPKE

THROUGH the advancement of science we are familiar with what constitutes a "breakthrough" in the conquest of interplanetary space. The world continues to hope for a breakthrough in the cold war of international politics. Many government, economic, labor, business and other leaders are seeking a breakthrough in the inflationary spiral.

Today we are also seeking a breakthrough for the ministry. We seek to achieve radically new proportions of influence for Christ by sharing with relevance the gospel and sacraments. Such a breakthrough is partially dependent upon adequate church personnel in terms of both quantity and quality.

The dimensions of quantity and quality for the ministry, important as they are for a breakthrough, can't be compared t a third dimension. The third dimensic is the measurement of our convictior about the ministry—about the positic given the pastor in the congregation an community, his functions and the degre of importance we attach to his wo through respect, cooperation, salary an other symbols. Often our expressed fee ings betray a fuzzy understanding of th pastor's ministry in our day.

Confusion About Ministry

Subtle and profound questions abo the ministry are reflected in criticisn like the following:

tradition-bound theological educ

Dr. Strempke is an associate secretary the ULCA Board of Higher Education.

tion bears too little relation to the kind of pastoral leadership needed and occasionally expected;

many congregations call men best suited to do stereotyped pastoral functions because they have a limited perspective of a ministry to their own community;

too many pastors fail in becoming courageous leaders for Christ and in making congregations dynamic, spiritual forces because they can't see objectively themselves or their congregations in the great stream of modern culture and society.

Pastors in a Whirl

Evidence of confusion among clergy bout their role and task is provided by he large number of pastors who identify hemselves with the term "macerated reachers." They try to be many men at he time—counselor, administrator, organizer, teacher, preacher, crusader, pubc relations expert, music leader, and a ood family man. All week many pastors hirl about as if they were in an autohatic washer. On Sunday morning many ep into the pulpit "damp dry."

Laity in Doubt

Many laymen betray an erroneous unerstanding of the pastoral ministry when ey insist their pastor do what they ould and are qualified to do. Or, some ymen insist the church become an eccles-stical clubhouse or babysitting agency nder the leadership of an overworked, nderpaid business manager with a cler-al collar. After endeavoring to satisfy e pastor's expectations regarding salary, ousing and fringe benefits, some council embers wonder what clergy mean by re-rring in sanctimonious tones to "a ivine call."

Clarified Understanding of Ministry Needed

Clarification of the confusion concerning the ministry for our day is obviously needed. However, this will not be achieved by a single or easy answer. Prayerful thought, study and practical effort will in time and with God's help provide the needed answers. Meanwhile the ministry of pastors by the grace of God will bear fruit. Clergy and laity can make equally valuable contributions toward a strengthened ministry through their mutual endeavor in sharing God's gifts of love, forgiveness, and faith.

Implications for Recruitment

Until resolved, our confused understanding of the ministry has negative effects by implication. First, it deters consideration of the ministry by a potential candidate. The blurred role of the minister in our society, his frenetic rounds of activity, the frustrations and disappointments of pastors (which too often predominate our thinking and conversation) can only appear magnified and uninviting in contrast to the crisp, lucid and reassuring job descriptions of many other occupations, particularly those of business and industry.

Romantic View of Ministry

Another aspect of our frustrations and confusion about the ministry is our romanticization of it. Often the ministry is described as it was in the bygone, good old days. Unrealistic and often sentimental views of the ministry may be acceptable for us, which incidentally can serve as escape mechanisms, but they do not satisfy many youth, particularly the most promising. They resent the gilded "pitch on the ministry." Many think it is characteristic of the church's other-world centeredness. They wait hopefully but not

with a sense of immediate expectancy for the church to cast off its encrusted institutionalism. In fact, some follow Christ with "tongue-in-cheek" because of the barnacles which have accumulated about the concepts of the Christian faith, the church and its ministry.

Some young people don't expect anything exciting at the little church on the corner, nor for that matter, do many of us. After all, the church is about the same as it was ten or fifteen years ago. Yes, there are some new faces and the few changes required by developing circumstances. But no increased percentage of the total congregation attends worship services on Sunday. Isn't it as always a struggle to keep the ULCM going, the Luther League vital, and the ULCW running smoothly with its intricate and delicate circles? And, of course, the pastors admit being used like never before by denominational leaders to promote an unending series of feature programs. In short, many youth just don't *dig* this kind of church life.

Better Qualifications Needed

The predicament of the ministry and our interpretation of it is related to the characteristics of many candidates for the ministry. Too many of them are passive, dependent, basically insecure conformists. These candidates for the most part are pleasant, well meaning, nice, superficially happy or possibly gregarious. But, they have weak backbones. Intellectually they can't compete with the majority of graduate students of law, medicine, physical science, social sciences and education. Yes, they probably compare very favorably with many who have preceded them. However, we are prone to err by assuming that the qualifications of the Lord's servant for yesterday and today will be adequate for tomorrow. Our society has changed; college education for t younger generation is as common as hi school education was for the older ge eration. And it is good to remember i tellectual quality isn't everything. The are other equally important qualificatio

Christian Vocation and Occupation

This younger generation from whi we anticipate future leadership deserv our respect. It is theologically perce tive and many of its representatives a zealously committed to the fulfillme of the Christian's Vocation, which is love, trust, obey and serve God for t sake of Christ. The cream of our you often turn their backs to church occup tions only after conscientiously a honestly concluding that they can make greater contribution for God's kingdo in other occupational areas. For examp whereas the Luther League's prima emphasis was once upon full-time Chr tian service, now it is on Christian V cation.

The Christian's Vocation is his va and necessary basis for considerin choosing and fulfilling an occupati Commitment to Christian Vocati shouldn't mean "I must become a past missionary, deaconess, teacher or so other church worker." Commitment Christian Vocation should include co sideration of church occupations as w as other occupational opportunities. Ho ever, some Christian youth reason thi Isn't it true that the institutionaliz church is failing effectively to perme society with the gospel? Aren't many p tors and other church workers protec from the world's raw thinking in li Isn't it the courageous, dedicated lay m or woman, who has the opportunities leaven the loaf of modern society? If faithful accountant, housewife, busine man, factory worker or farmer, thro

e fulfillment of Christian Vocation, is
ually as important as the pastor and
ossibly more so—why should I go into
e ministry or some other church occu-
ation? Such thinking constitutes power-
ul motivation for sober evaluation of the
inistry and the recruitment of candi-
ates for it.

Meaning of the Call

From another standpoint recent think-
g has dulled the halo around the minis-
y. Today we hear fewer mystical refer-
ces to the call. The plea is for realism.
he trend is toward a greater apprecia-
on for the involvement of God in daily
perience. He affords us insights into
e potentialities of our lives for him
d our fellowmen through evaluation of
eir interests, aptitudes and skills, oppor-
nities and limitations. This approach
ems more meaningful to our youth who
e responsive to the vocational counselors
public schools, to the current wealth of
cupational guidance materials and the
tractive "come-ons" of recruitment for
ofessions, business and industry.

Many of the clergy support laymen
discarding mystical interpretations of
e call to the ministry. In fact many
ergymen are abandoning the term "call"
t of a suspicion that it repels rather
an impels consideration of the ministry
d other church occupations. But,
riously, often these same clergymen
ift into rarified mysticism in tender-
g their resignation to a congregation
d in justifying the acceptance of what
pears to be a more attractive situation.
r, occasionally we hear a parent an-
ounce "Our boy is called to be a min-
ter." Would they use the same expres-
on if it had been farming, business,
aching, etc.? Why not?

A new look at the ministry hopefully
ill encourage clergy and laity toward greater objectivity, more honesty and deeper Christian understanding about the human motivations, aspirations and necessities of the pastor and his family. Such an achievement of realism and Christian integrity about the call through our faithfulness to Christ will be significant in acquiring more and better qualified candidates.

Ministry of Laity

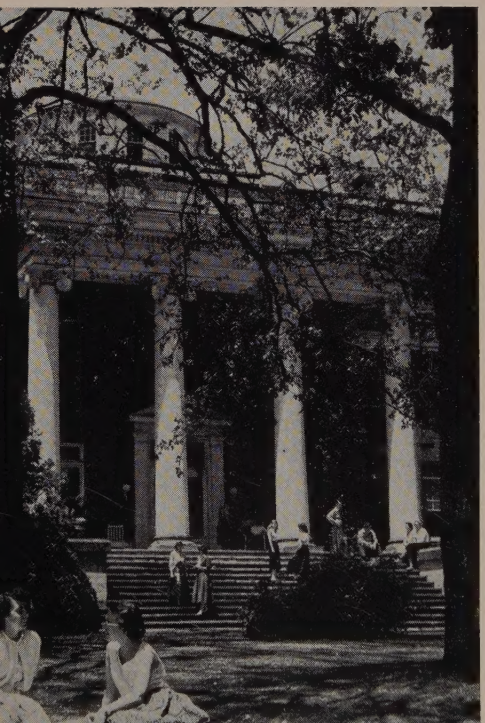
The resolution of our mixed attitudes and opinions about the ministry of the clergy also will have parallel blessings for an enriched emphasis about the ministry of the laity. More people will be conscious of their privilege and responsibility as ministers in serving one another because of their relationship to God in love, trust and obedience. The Christian family will be a more potent matrix of learning experiences through which its members are prepared as faithful servants of Christ for a variety of occupational possibilities. The ministry as one such possibility will not be on a pedestal for those who might feel peculiarly worthy. The ministry and other church occupations will be options requiring the honest and prayerful consideration of every sincere Christian. The prospective candidate will be inspired to give such consideration to the ministry because of those who extend to him the means of grace. In spite of the limitations of the institutionalized church, more courageous and better qualified candidates will dare to make the gospel relevant for others through church occupations. Then we will no longer be so passive about the creeping malignancy of the church. More occupations will acquire characteristics of a ministry for Jesus Christ. Such a day will signal a breakthrough for the pastor's ministry, the layman's ministry and the church's ministry.

Colleges of the ULCA . . . Seventh in a Series

MARION

Virginia School is Only ULCA Junior College

by PAUL G. PETERSO



Marion's Southern grace and charm is reflected in its spacious campus and this columned portico.

TO PROVIDE sound academic trainin appreciation of cultural and spiritu values, and opportunity for the exerci of the social graces in a positive Chri tion atmosphere—thus Marion Colleg a two-year college for women, enunciat its mission in the first sentence of i catalogue.

Marion, founded in 1873 by a grou of pastors and laymen of the Luthera Synod of Virginia, has continued servin an ever-widening constituency of wome of all denominations from various par of the United States, Canada, and foreig countries.

In many ways Marion holds a uniq position among Lutheran colleges. It the only two-year college of the Unit Lutheran Church in America, and th only Lutheran college for women in th United States. Being small (present e rollment limited to about 150 student it can justly claim to give its studen the individual attention and person guidance often lacking in larger colleg and universities.

Marion offers the standard freshm and sophomore subjects of college wo

Mr. Peterson is Vice President of t ULCA's Marion College in Marion, Va

ading to arts and science degrees. In ldition, the curriculum includes pre-ofessional courses in music, home eco-omics, technology and business as well terminal courses in a number of fields. ooperative programs in fields of special terest to women have been concluded ith four-year colleges and universities aving outstanding departments in these rticular fields. These programs enable e Marion graduate to transfer directly junior class standing in the cooperat-g four-year school without loss of edit. Full credit transfer is, of course, ot limited to these schools. Almost with-ut exception Marion graduates have ade enviable records in their senior-ollege work and advanced study. For ie present, Marion is continuing the last ar of preparatory work (12th grade), ut pressure of college enrollment will rce discontinuance of the preparatory epartment in the near future.

Marion has been singularly success-ul in building a strong, loyal faculty hose sense of Christian vocation has een and continues to be a source of spiration to its students and alumnae. rofessionally competent and awake to odern educational trends, the faculty eeps before the student the central mean-g of truth as expressed in the Chris-an faith. College chapel services, eve-ing devotions conducted by the students, d special religious observances through-ut the year bring before the college mily in concrete form the underlying irit of Christian commitment pervad-g every aspect of Marion College life.

Marion students participate in all the sual activities associated with an active ollege life. There are abundant oppor-nities to attend concerts of the Com-unity Concert Association and out-anding dramatic productions of Barter

Traditional May Day pageant at Marion College is a "glorious affirmation of the return of spring."

Theater nearby. The College brings to its auditorium outstanding speakers on national and international affairs, and the faculty from time to time presents cultural programs and recitals.

Sports play a large part in the recreational life of the student with seasonal sports open to all girls; competitive teams are chosen for intercollegiate games in field hockey and basketball. An intramural program supplements the curricular activities of the sports program.

The crowning activity of the physical education program comes on the Saturday of commencement weekend when a pageant of folk and modern interpretive dancing is presented before the senior court, the May Queen and her assembled guests in the traditional Marion College "May Day." All the beauty of a Virginia springtime is concentrated on the College green as music, pageantry and rhythmic motion blend into a glorious affirmation of the return of spring.

The College has many student organizations: the Missionary Society holds the

distinction of being the oldest Women's Missionary Society of the Lutheran Church in the South; Lutheran students (about half of the students in residence are Lutheran) are active in Lutheran Student Association affairs both locally and regionally; departmental clubs and student publications offer students ample opportunity to gain experience in democratic processes and journalism; a long tradition of successful student government has made election to membership on the student council one of the highest honors a Marion girl can receive; the Young Women's Christian Association, working under the guidance of the Dean of Women, carries out the year's program of worship and social events. Students are given first hand experience in conducting candlelight meditations, planning banquets and parties, and setting high standards of social conduct in their association with students from nearby campuses.

A full range of musical activities is available to the girls; membership in the College Choir is a coveted prize. Cor cert appearances are made frequentl before local churches and civic groups choir members look forward each yea to the extensive spring tour.

In spite of its moderate fees, Mario College has been able to improve an expand its existing facilities, during th past few years. The Administration an Board of Trustees, fully aware of th demands being made on colleges an universities, are laying plans to meet th challenge. Recent acquisitions of pro erty have added to the school's physic plant, and a commission is at wo planning a long-range program of pro erty expansion and building.

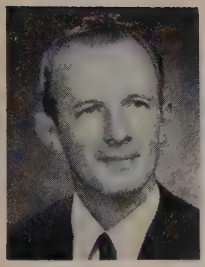
Marion College looks confidently to future of greater, more effective servi to students and to the church suppor ing it. An enthusiastic student body, dedicated faculty and staff, a loyal alum nae, and faithful church support assu its steady growth and a secure pla among Lutheran colleges in America.

The Decline and Fall

In 1787 Edward Gibbon wrote a history which he called *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.* He listed five major reasons why Rome fell. They are:

1. The rapid increase of divorce and the decay of family life
2. Higher and higher taxes
3. The mad desire and craze for pleasure
4. The weight of gigantic armaments
5. The decay of religion

Is there any parallel for us in America today? Could the same reasons that destroyed Rome destroy America too? All of the problems have Christian implications for all of us.



MAN TO MAN

by LAWRENCE M. REESE

Why Johnny Can't Work

A FRIEND of ours has a son 25 years ld who cannot adjust to the world of ork. Son John just squeaked through ie university, taking as many snap ourses as possible. In his four years since raduation he's had three different posi- ons. Currently he's ready for another hange. It seems that none of the posi- ons so far has fulfilled all that his col- ge-tinted dreams had hoped for: Rapid chievement, status, long weekends, heavy rofit-sharing and not too much respon- bility, especially after 5 o'clock in the fternoon.

John is not short on intelligence and e's above average in ability. And he's ot a square peg in a round hole. He as had the advantage of vocational guid- nce in both high school and college. dded to this, John has a rather nice per- nality, one nice enough to have won im three different jobs already. Yet with l these fine qualities, Johnny can't work.

The fact that Johnny can't work is an d, old story to his dad. Beginning in ementary school, every report card rought misery to the family. School au- orities were certain that Johnny could better but he never really applied imself. The same pattern was evident high school and later in college. Johnny as all too familiar with the dean's office. ozens of times he heard people say: "John, we know you can do it. Let's get down to work." But John never did get down to work. *And his dad is one of the reasons why!*

Damaging Table Talk

Although Johnny doesn't know it, he was brought up on a diet of negative attitudes regarding work. His dad's attitude toward work was that work consisted of being clever, getting other people to do the hard jobs, stepping on others if necessary to advance. There was much table talk in John's home about the deals dad made, and the deals were always measured in terms of cold cash.

Family table talk also divided the office folk into the sheep and the goats. One group helped dad swing his deals; the goats got in his way. Johnny soon picked up the idea that work was pretty rough, a means to an end and a place where some of the world's worst people made life miserable for clever, righteous people like Johnny's dad. Mingled with the table talk at John's house were such word pictures as: The Slave-Driver (the boss); The Ignorant Ted Buskin (young man who aspires to dad's job); Scotland Yard (the auditor who takes a close look at expense accounts); Frantic Girl Friday (dad's secretary).

Naturally table talk about dad's work was beamed to mother. But Johnny's little

ears were always tuned in on father's wave length. At a tender age it was quite obvious that work was a problem; that there were far more troubles than satisfactions. Johnny didn't blame his dad for looking for better jobs every few years. In fact, Johnny was glad for weekends and vacations when dad was free of the many problems connected with work.

As Johnny grew older he adopted many of his dad's attitudes regarding work. His first part-time jobs were means to ends. They offered Johnny good wages but little satisfaction. Like his dad, Johnny always felt that satisfaction might come with the next job, one more suited to his interests. So far that position has never arrived. Johnny's constantly looking for the next job and that's why he can't work at his present one.

Their Fathers' Sons

Today's workers are their fathers' sons in more ways than one. We fathers may not realize it but we pass on to our children their basic attitudes and patterns regarding work. Fortunately many dads do much better than Johnny's did. Scan "Who's Who in America" and note how many illustrious men had dads who were good workers before them, men who derived deep satisfaction from their vocation. Look at your own community and see how many good physicians are sons of physicians. The same can be said of bankers, pastors, businessmen, farmers and many others.

Near our home is a very respected craftsman. He has the reputation for being the best in the county. People come many miles to have him do their work. The craftsman is obviously in love with his work. He pours a generous part of himself into every job he does. Little wonder that one of his sons is successful working with him and building a similar reputation for himself. And his oth sons are successful in different occu tions—successful in terms of perso satisfaction, quality workmanship and re service to others.

Man to man, I'd like to ask: What ki of a workman do you portray to yo children? What attitudes and experienc at work are shared in your family tab talk? Does the satisfaction of work e press itself in your own self-image a in your family relationships?

Christian fathers can offer their ch dren a solid foundation for a life calli by (1) recognizing the many factors the world of work which frequently ma the working world a rugged and demar ing arena, and (2) accepting the ch lenge and demands of our working co ditions and responding on the basis firm Christian convictions. Sons a daughters will not be as bothered by t fact that the working world is demandi if they see in their fathers the God-giv gift to accept the inevitables and still rive many satisfactions from their wo The Christian home, therefore, is basic recruiting agency. And dad quently plays the role of chief recruite

Dr. Fry Preaches at Hollywood Bowl Service

ULCA President Franklin Clark F has accepted an invitation to deliver th sermon at the Hollywood Bowl East Sunrise Service April 17.

The distinguished Lutheran churc man, president of America's largest Lut eran church body and a leader of Wor Protestantism, is also president of th Lutheran World Federation and chairma of both the Central and Executive Cor mittees of the World Council Churches.

NEWS of Men and their Activities

Members of the Executive Committee f ULCM are serving in other useful laces in the church too! *Oscar Lingle* has any important posts in the life of the urch. Recently he was elected treasurer f the Pennsylvania Council of Churches ith offices in Harrisburg. *Aubrey auney* serves as vice president of the orth Carolina Council of Churches. Dr. *arl Freese,* third vice president of LCM, serves on the Board of Directors f Hartwick College. J. Russell Barley, cond vice president, serves on the Execu- ve Board of Pittsburgh Synod and the utherlyn Camp Board.

* * *

The ULCM of *St. John's, Fryburg, Pa.* cently held a Program Evaluation Meet- g. As a result the men started a study the gospel of Luke and the book of cts. This sounds like the kind of study hich all congregational ULCMs should ndertake, a Program Evaluation Study. *t. Zion, Shippenville Parish, Pa.* ULCM cently donated the time required to in- ulate the church ceiling and install storm indows throughout the entire building. *eformation, Wichita, Kans.* ULCM re- ntly installed its first permanent officers. resent for the installation was Confer- ce President Ernest Suhr of Ellis, Kans. he charter was also presented and Cen- al States ULCM President Marvin Bar- tt spoke.

We are delighted to see an increasing number of congregational retreats. There should be more ULCM congregational retreats. The New York office of ULCM has a very fine Retreat Manual available at 25¢. This is the only one of its kind and places great emphasis on the spiritual type retreat. *St. Luke's, Huntington Park, Calif.* recently held a retreat for the congregation at Camp Yolijwa near Redlands, Calif.

TRINITY, Wyandanch, N. Y., celebrated its first anniversary as a ULCM with installation of new officers in January by New York Conference President Carl Wolford. In the photo: Mansfield Boykin, treasurer; William Rottman, secretary; Jim Morhman standing in for Harry Wahlberg, vice president; Ed Denzler, president; Wolford. Trinity ULCM is working hard to start a new Nassau-Suffolk County Conference.

NEW 1960 Executive Committee and council members of Lutheran Church Men of Americ (sponsoring agency of boy scouting program) at recent annual meeting in Chicago, seatec Harry Nelson, Greenville, Mich., UELC; Archie B. Baardseth, Minneapolis, Minn., ELC *treasurer;* E. A. Anderson, Washington, Ill., ULCA, *vice president;* Dr. H. F. Kilande East Orange, N. J., Aug., *president;* Carl W. Johnson, Ishpeming, Mich., Suomi, *secretar* Miss E. Genevieve Stivers, Minneapolis, Minn., Aug., *general office secretary.* Nationa Lutheran Committee on Scouting, standing: The Rev. Frans A. Victorson, St. Joseph, Mich Aug., *chairman;* Aubrey Mauney, Kings Mountain, N. C., ULCA; Eino Kangas, Chicag Ill., Suomi; Howard L. Logan, New York, N. Y., ULCA; Clifford E. Dahlin, Chicago, Ill Aug.; B. T. Bodie, Columbia, S. C., ULCA; Ernest E. Petersen, Racine, Wis., UELC; Lore M. Ness, Minneapolis, Minn., ELC; R. H. Alexander, Sioux City, Iowa, ELC; A. J. Helland Minneapolis, Minn., ELC, *former treasurer.* Not present for the photo was council membe Carl H. Jacobson, Rock Island, Ill., Aug.

Father and Son Banquet at *St. Peter's, Miami, Fla.* was the occasion of the BSA 50th anniversary celebration by the ULCM and the scout troop. Some 300 persons attended the dinner, with Pastor Albert Schmidt of Grace, Miami Springs, acting as m.c. Co-pastors of St. Peter's are Carsten H. Ludder and John R. Taylor. Host church ULCM president is Lou Hamm.

* * *

Third annual Scouting Conference of *Southern California Area* is scheduled for May 7 at St. Paul's (UELC), Lynwood, Calif., according to word received from John Patz, scouting director of Pacific Southwest Synod ULCM. The conference will bring together scouters and Pro Deo et Patria winners for wor shops to reestablish coordination betwe the church and scouting. Conferen chairman is Ira Herman of the hc church. Sponsor is the Lutheran Comm tee on Scouting of the Southern Ca fornia Area (representing six Luther bodies) which recently elected these c ficers: Russell Campbell, St. Pete (ALC), Santa Ana, *chairman;* Howa Ulberg, Grace (ELC), Covina, *secretar* John Patz, Ascension (ULCA), Baldw Park, *treasurer.*

* * *

Recently the *ULCM of St. James, W terloo, Ontario* discussed the subject "T Christian's Attitude Toward Birth Co trol." The Rev. Adolph Kappes of Con toga presented the subject. W. Oltma

was was elected president of St. James. *St. Matthew's, Kitchener* recently viewed the film "Missionary to Walker's Garage." A panel discussion followed the showing of the film. Albert Krpoft, president of the ULCM unit, was moderator. *Howard Herter,* president of the Canada Synod ULCM, recently addressed the students at Waterloo Seminary. *St. Peter's ULCM of Kitchener* held its third annual Men's Dinner and was addressed by Donald Roberts, a former mayor of Waterloo. Joseph Bowman, an active scouter and Lamb Award winner, was elected president.

* * *

A new ULCM unit came into existence at *St. Mark's, Davenport, Iowa,* the Rev. Walter Sabins, pastor. *Faith, Eldridge, Iowa ULCM* recently conducted the King's Men Crusade in the congregation. *First Lutheran, Fairfield, Iowa* recently organized with 25 men in attendance. Vern Johnson and Dr. Alfred Beil were special guests. Kendrick Schaefer was elected president.

* * *

APPRECIATION plaque was presented at Chicago to the Rev. Frans Victorson, center, chairman of National Lutheran Committee on Scouting, by Dr. A. E. Iverson, director of Protestant Relationships of BSA. At left is Dr. H. F. Kilander, president of Lutheran Church Men of America, sponsoring agency of the scouting program.

FOURTH new ULCM charter of 1960 in the Pennsylvania Ministerium is presented by Ministerium ULCM President Richard H. Snell to Edward Broughall, ULCM president at Trinity, Robesonia, on Feb. 21. Looking on are: George W. Fischer, treasurer; Trinity Pastor Paul J. Henry; Ralph J. Putt, secretary. Five new charters were issued thus far this year in the Ministerium, including those to: St. John's, Slatington; St. John's, Phoenixville; St. John's, South Pottstown; St. Peter's, North Wales. Snell is also secretary of the international ULCM.

It isn't often that a full page appears in the New York Times which has to do with "Love . . . the Greatest Gift" supported with verses from Matthew and I John. Recently such a full page ad did appear in America's greatest newspaper. It was sponsored by *Leon Ackerman* and cost thousands of dollars for one insertion. Some men believe in spending to witness.

* * *

At the annual meeting of the *National Lutheran Council* it was reported that for the first time LWA money is being spent to employ the use of dogs. Yes, the dogs are used to protect our LWA officials serving in the Philippines.

* * *

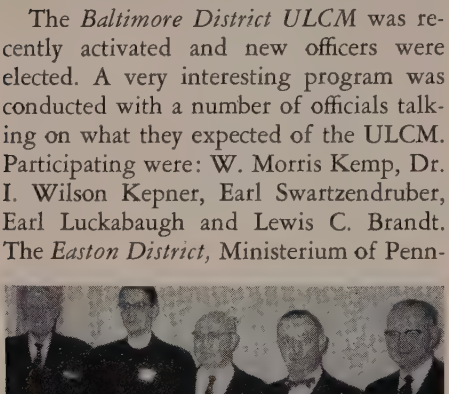
It was reported to the annual meeting of the *National Lutheran Committee on*

Scouting that there are 175 full-time Protestant Chaplains serving boy scout camps and 125 part-time Protestant chaplains serving other boy scout camps each year during the camping season.

In case you do not think Americans have money, let us read a report from the recent issue of *Pride* which states that in 1917 there were 7,000 Americans whose gross adjusted income was $100,000 or more. In 1957 there were 23,000.

* * *

The *Baltimore District ULCM* was recently activated and new officers were elected. A very interesting program was conducted with a number of officials talking on what they expected of the ULCM. Participating were: W. Morris Kemp, Dr. I. Wilson Kepner, Earl Swartzendruber, Earl Luckabaugh and Lewis C. Brandt. The *Easton District,* Ministerium of Penn-



RESURRECTION, Rochester, N.Y. ULCM recently assembled a panel to discuss church merger topics. From the left: Dr. William Stackel, one-time Protestant layman of the year who was involved in the 1918 merger negotiations; Pastor Paul M. Young Jr. of Resurrection; Dr. Russell Fink, former conference president with a background of 25 years in the India mission field; Ronald Barres, veteran Lutheran scouter and president of Rochester Conference ULCM; Dr. Earl Freese, moderator, a member of Resurrection, third vice president of the international ULCM and a veteran of more than 25 years of men's work. Program chairman was Carl Martens.

sylvania ULCM was organized in lat January. Elected president was Georg Schurz of St. Paul's, Easton. Richard Snell synodical ULCM president, spoke. Th election was conducted by the presiden and secretary of the Easton District. Th *Trappe District ULCM* was organized re cently at Grace Lutheran Church, Royers ford, Pa. The address was given by th Rev. Lester Fetter and Richard Snell pa ticipated in the organization.

* * *

The *Philadelphia Area ULCM* held i 17th annual Ladies Night at McAllister Restaurant. A very fine program w printed for the occasion with space bein given to the various phases of the ULC program. Percy Smith was chairman the event. Greetings were brought by D Charles Cooper, president of the Mini terium of Pennsylvania. Eugene Kelchn brought greetings from the ULC (ULCA). The *Delaware District ULC* has announced a Spring Rally for M 1 at West Chester, Pa. Dr. Howard Row, Assistant Superintendent of Educ tion for Delaware, will speak. Wern Seimer of Wilmington is president.

* * *

The *Pacific Southwest Synod ULCM* getting underway. A meeting of t executive committee was held recent Plans are in the making for the first co vention of this unit. Another meeti will be held at the synod meeting in S ramento. Ken McMillan of Culver City handling subscriptions to LUTHER MEN. The *Southern Conference ULC* will hold its Spring Banquet at Pasade May 7. The *Minnesota State ULCM* w hold its spring meeting at Faith Luther Church St. Paul, April 28. Dr. Rob Holman, a member of JCLU, will be t speaker. The *Wisconsin State ULCM* announced its Pine Lake Retreat pla

REELECTED officers of the National Lutheran Council at its 42nd annual meeting in Atlantic City, N. J. last month are: Fred C. Eggerstedt, Richmond Hill, N. Y., ULCA layman who serves as *treasurer;* Dr. Raymond M. Olson, Minneapolis, Minn., stewardship director of the ELC, who is vice president; Dr. Norman A. Menter, Berkley, Mich., president of Augustana's Michigan District, who is *president;* Harold LeVander, St. Paul, Minn., Augustana layman and *secretary.*

The retreat will be held June 1-12 with the Rev. E. Belter as retreat leader. Twelve men have been signed up as contact men for the unit's extension plans.

* * *

The *Pacific Synod ULCM* has published its first issue of *Pacific Men,* a news letter type of promotion. Virgil Mason of Salem is the editor. The ULCM convention will be held in the fall at Central, Seattle. The Northern Conference ULCM is planning a "Pilgrimage with a Purpose" to Lutherwood on Lake Samish, Wash. Faith, Everett held its second annual "Get Acquainted" dinner recently.

* * *

The *Indiana ULCM* plans its annual retreat at Camp Lutherwald, June 10-12. It is hoped that Alvin Schaediger will be the retreat leader. The Indiana ULCM convention is set for October 1-2 at Lafayette, Ind. Fred Anderson is handling synodical ULCM publicity since Jan. 1.

* * *

The *Maryland ULCM* has appointed Al Dietz of Washington D.C. as chairman of the annual retreat scheduled for September. Richard Bailey of the Western District is convention chairman this year.

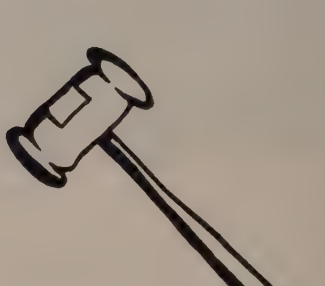
$500 Scholarship In Adult Education

Lutheran Church Men of America through its Committee on Christian Higher Education has established a $500 scholarship for an individual chosen by the committee for his further training in adult education and group dynamics at a university session. This action was taken for the purpose of developing more leadership resources in Lutheran Church Men of America. Interested individuals should request application forms from William F. Zimmerman, chairman of the Committee on Christian Higher Education, Midland College, Fremont, Nebraska. The final date of application is May 1, 1960.

Views from Headquarters

HOWARD L. LOGAN, *Executive Secretary*
231 Madison Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

Mr. Logan's special message to ULCM executive officers is taken from the ULCM Handbook.



Mr. ULCM President:

YOURS is the *most* important office in the United Lutheran Church Men plan of organization. *You* will determine the success or failure of our great movement because *no* other part can successfully progress without an efficiently operated congregational organization. As the congregation is the foundation for our whole church structure, the congregational United Lutheran Church Men's group is the foundation for men's work in the United Lutheran Church in America.

If you bring to your office an enthusiastic resolve that your ULCM shall strengthen and build your congregation, and that *you* will do everything possible to cooperate with your conference, synod and international organization, your success is assured. You will then be a fine asset to the whole church and the ULCM structure; and the church and ULCM will, in turn, be of great value to you, a working Christian.

You have been called for a defini service in the kingdom of our Lord. L it not be said that you failed him; b rather that you gave of your time a talents to make your ULCM group outstanding that others will see the sults you obtained, and be encouraged do likewise.

A Successful Officer Organizes, Deputizes, Supervises

Keep this in mind! You are *not* pected to do all the work. Deputize m to assist you. On the other hand, yo is not merely an honorary office. Yo duties are many. You are the leader promoting a genuine program, and sponsible for selecting key men for s cessful committee work.

As president you *must* be dependab A duty assumed must be a duty f formed. The president works hardest tween meetings. He checks on the w of the men assisting him in the co

ittees. His mind is open and alert to w ideas to promote the work he is ing. Above all, he is one who shows at he is "sold" on the work of United utheran Church Men. This, more than ything else will command the respect d support of the men of the church. his applies to all other officers of LCM also.

In selecting your helpers, you should ot use friendship as the sole guide. ose friendship does not always indicate e best qualification. You should choose gressive men who have enthusiasm for e office they hold. They must be coerative partners in a team that is work- g for the success and accomplishment the total program of United Lutheran urch Men. Never fail to give credit to ose members who share your load. ecognition for work accomplished llows the simple tribute, "Well done, ou good and faithful servant; thou st been faithful over a few things, I ill make thee ruler over many things; ter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Your duties will call for much of your ne for which you will receive no comnsation except the satisfaction of a sk well performed. Select your committes with care, and be certain that they e eager to serve with you in the Lord's ork. Give them your personal attention nd cooperation at all times. Go over, eir assignment with them carefully. lways respect the opinions of your assoates. Listen to what they have to say out their work and weigh carefully the formation which they bring you. Treat e business of ULCM as it should be eated—as an important part of the ord's work.

Meetings must be handled in a busiess-like matter. Many items can be exedited by the executive committee between meetings. Keep within the time limit set by your group. *Begin on time! End on time!* Follow the program outline contained in the *ULCM Handbook.* Familiarize yourself with simple parliamentary rules for the business proceedings. Have a *definite* program for every meeting and keep the program well in hand. Give the men ample opportunity for discussion, but curtail lengthy and undesirable comments and discussions.

Chapter XXII of the *ULCM Handbook* entitled "Improving our Leadership" pertains especially to the officers of the congregational ULCM group. *You* will do well to read it several times. Make the *Handbook* your constant reference, so that your efforts will bring the greatest possible return for your church and your Lord.

Your personal life and conduct will have much bearing and influence on your leadership in the local group. You should always be mindful that you are to set the example to others.

Consult with your pastor concerning all of the plans and programs for your ULCM group. Ask him for suggestions, but do not depend upon him for the leadership and motivating power for the group. He is interested and will do more than you expect of him. This working arm of the church will bring much joy to his ministry. You can make your ULCM group count for most, with your pastor's guidance and cooperation.

Suggested Calendar of Activities for the President

1. At the first meeting of the Program Year, the president should announce all committes for the year. He should outline plans and projects he hopes to carry out during the year. The committee assignments should be mimeographed and distributed to all men.

2. The *new* president should have an executive committee meeting including all officers and committee chairmen. He should ask the vice president to preside. At this meeting the *Handbooks* should be distributed to the new officers and committee chairmen. The budget for the year's work should be set. The pastor should be present so that he can outline the congregation's program for the year and suggest activities of the men included in the program. For example, conducting the King's Men Crusade. Hold an executive committee meeting each month, one week following the program meeting.

3. The monthly program meeting should never be cancelled or postponed except in extreme circumstances. Spasmodic meetings impair the morale of your members and do much harm to the work of United Lutheran Church Men.

4. Attend all conference and synodical ULCM rallies, conventions and workshops. These meetings outside of your church provide inspiration and information of great value to the president. Do not expect the officers and members of your ULCM group to attend if you do not set the example by your own attendance.

5. Immediately after the annual elections send the names and addresses of all local officers and committee chairmen to the secretary of the conference and synodical ULCM group. Send this same information to: United Lutheran Church Men, 231 Madison Avenue, New York 16, New York.

6. When you have completed your term of office, make a final report to the group with any recommendations you feel desirable. Thank each of the men who have worked with you during your tenure. If the *Handbooks* are the property of the group, see that they are collected and turned over to the new officers.

Van Deusen Lists Problems

Dr. Robert Van Deusen, Washingtc correspondent for the National Luthera Council and writer of the Washingtc column in *The Lutheran* listed the follov ing as the Ten Problems Facing Ameri in the 60s:

1. The Space Age
2. The Need for Discontinuance Nuclear Testing
3. The Complex Problem of Arm ments
4. The Population Explosion
5. The Gap Between the Standard Living in the West and Und veloped Countries of the World
6. The Growing Power of Red Chi
7. Racial Integration
8. The Rising American Birthrate
9. The Philosophy and Aims of Ame ican Education
10. The Relation of Government Public Education

Dr. Van Deusen presented the abo as the problems he saw in reporting the 1960 annual meeting of the Nation Lutheran Council in Atlantic City February.

South Bend Minutes

Copies of the Minutes of the South Bend ULCM Convention are available upon request from the ULCM offices, 231 Madison Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

All correspondence and information value should be given to the new pre dent. You have gained much knowled and help as president. Now it is yo privilege to help your successor as active member. Don't decide to "take rest."

SCOUTING

by CHARLES W. BYERS

Three-Fourths of Scouting is Outing

SCOUTING BEGINS just outside the meeting room door! We can plan in the meeting room, we can organize, reminisce, play games, report and take care of business, but *Scouting* begins when we go outing.

Boys remain tenderfoot scouts much too long—sometimes to the place where they lose interest, drop out, and grow into manhood with the "tenderfoot experience." When this happens someone has failed in the character development and citizenship training of another boy. Some scouts remain tenderfoot for more than a year. Ask them "why?" and they will tell you it is because they didn't have a chance to pass their second class requirements—as simple as that, and it's true. How can a scout pass fire-building, cooking, knife and hatchet, stalking or trailing in a scout meeting room?

The meeting room is an important part of the troop life. It provides a place for troop equipment, makes a good established meeting place and gives the boy the feeling of belonging to an established unit. It helps him to feel that he has a church home base.

The point is simply this: we get in the meeting room rut" and call it scouting, but at the same time we give the boy a *Handbook for Boys* that outlines hiking, camping, and outdoor skills. Real scouting in the out-of-doors calls for some good plans on the part of the patrol leaders council, the scoutmaster and his assistants,

TWO Pro Deo et Patria awards were presented Feb. 7 at St. Mark's, Roanoke, Va. In photo: St. Mark's Pastor J. E. Stockman; awardee Star Scouts Charles Snyder and Jimmy Bowers; Scoutmaster Ray Welch.

the troop committee, and the parents of the scouts. It's a teamwork proposition.

The Outdoor Troop

One troop I had the pleasure of visiting never held a meeting indoors for a whole year. Week after week it met in the out-of-doors. Many meetings were held on Saturday mornings—some were held after dark on week days. Sometimes meetings were held in an open shelter house to plan and conduct business. Each meeting had outdoor activities, games, fun, and a planned written program. The scouts were resourceful and soon learned the skill of dressing for rainy days; in the winter they

PRO DEO et Patria award went to Life Scout William Lundstrom at St. John's, Elkhorn, Wis. on Feb. 7. In photo: Scoutmaster George Paulsen; Scout Lundstrom; his mother Mrs. Henry Lundstrom; St. John's Pastor Robert C. Schmidt.

dressed for cold and snow. Even parent activities were outdoor events. Incidently, the troop had some mighty good cooks. The scoutmaster had his troop well organized with patrol leaders doing a fine patrol leader's job. He had little trouble finding assistants and his troop committee was like a part of the troop.

Needless to say, advancement was very good. Scouts learned hiking skills early in their troop experience and soon passed second class requirements. Camping was a year-round experience and scouts soon became proficient in camping skills and passed their first class requirements. Merit badge skills for higher ranks had the assistance of committee members and counselors who enjoyed visiting and counseling with the scouts at their outdoor sessions. The troop had a slogan, "We ca overnight at least once each mon Overnight hikes were organized so the scoutmaster, one of the assistants outdoor committeemen took their each fourth month.

Faithful in His Religious Duties

Hiking and camping are importan the advancement of the scout and pla great part in the development of the but plans should be made so that the door program does not interfere with spiritual training of the scout. He ha obligation to do his duty to his churc outlined in the Scout Oath and Twelfth Scout Law.

Hikes and camps can utilize Fri and Saturdays. Some troops, when ca ing out Saturday night, plan to re Sunday morning in a group to attend S day school and church. There are m other plans that can be explored. It t cooperation and advance planning, bu pays big dividends.

One scoutmaster serves as Sun school teacher and attends church Sunday. He invites the scouts of his t to attend church with him. Hikes or door scouting activities start at one three places: the troop meeting, Sun school, or after church. Scouts soon the group so that they may take par the activity when and where it is plan One patrol of scouts voiced the opin that they were left out of a Sunday a noon hike. The senior patrol le

Cover Story

GOLDEN Jubilee Dinner of Boy Scout Troop 13 at Immanuel, Meriden, Conn. attra 180 persons Feb. 2. The festive event featured presentation of the Silver Beaver awar Edward Leck for faithful and outstanding service as scoutmaster, troop committeeman, other activities on the district and council levels. In the photo: Scoutmaster Hug Reinhardt; National Representative Francis Danaher; Mr. Leck; Scouts Robert Wag Raymond Denison and Peter Reinhardt, who received their Eagle awards; Eagle S Jon Hackbarth, who was awarded the Bronze Palm; Scout George Slobko, who also rece the Eagle. Troop 13 is sponsored by the ULCM at Immanuel Church, Pastor William T.

nply explained, "It wasn't a scout hike; was an 'after church' hike." This scoutaster is giving his boys an all-around owth experience through scouting, Sun-y school and church.

A Leisure Time Program

The scoutmaster has a responsibility to s troop, but he also has a responsibility his family and his job. Scouting is a isure time activity and good balance of ne in troop, home, church, and vocation important. One leader related this exrience: "When I attended a recent outer training session, I found that after tching my tent, preparing my bed, keepg things in order, cooking my own eal, washing dishes, packing and cleang up, I returned home to my lovely ife with a greater appreciation of what e does for me each day." Scouts, too, n learn through good camping experilces how much parents do for them at me.

Teaching in the Outdoors

Scouting is fun! It is a game with a rpose. The game of character building d citizenship training is one that can ceive many lasting experiences only ailable in God's great out-of-doors. Nare's mysteries, self reliance, living with hers in a compatible manner, and the ssons of the four seasons of the year all ch the boy to grow into better manod. The outdoor program has many portunities for the individual to be awn closer to God.

Let's get out-of-doors, but far more portant, let's plan the outdoor activities that they meet the needs of boys. ssign the cooking-fire job to the scout ho needs to pass the fire-building reirement; give the wood gathering detail the scout who needs to pass knife and tchet. Yes, and give the serious campe ceremony to the scout who needs

STAR Scout Fletcher Cranford Jr. received the Pro Deo et Patria award on Feb. 7 at Redeemer, Kannapolis, N.C. In photo: Mrs. Fletcher Cranford Sr., his mother; Redeemer Pastor John Y. Yoder Jr.; Scout Cranford; R. R. Coggins, district scout representative; Fletcher Cranford Sr., scoutmaster and father of the awardee.

FIRST Church, Louisville, Ky. was the scene Feb. 14 of Pro Deo et Patria award to Life Scout Michael Craig. In photo: Mr. and Mrs. William Craig, parents of the winner; Scout Craig; Pastor John H. Evans of First Church.

---

spiritual growth. Truly, since three-fourths of scouting is *outing, scouting* begins just outside the meeting room door.

ULCM Honorary Life Memberships . . . December & Januar

Canada
The Rev. A. J. Datars, Trinity, Tavistock, Ontario

Central Pennsylvania
Robert T. Fox Sr., Zion, Hummelstown

Central States
John L. Blinde, St. Matthew's, Johnson, Neb.
Chester B. Evans, Children's Memorial, Kansas City, Mo.
Otto A. Hinze, Zion, Gothenburg, Neb.

Georgia-Alabama
Wesley H. Bonzo, Resurrection, Augusta, Ga.
The Rev. Cecil W. Carpenter, Ga-Ala ULCM
William L. Copeland, St. Matthew's, Atlanta, Ga.
The Rev. Clarence K. Derrick, Jr., Our Saviour's, Albany, Ga.
Louis Kasselhut, Our Saviour's, Albany, Ga.

Maryland
C. William Ecton Sr., St. Mark's, Hagerstown
James G. Henry, St. Mark's, Hagerstown

Pennsylvania Ministerium
Vernon M. Kamp, Grimville Parish, Kem
ton
Russell Keeney, St. John's, Pine Grove
The Rev. William C. Ney, D.D., Trinit
Havertown
Webster R. Wimmer, St. Peter's, Hilltown
Russell H. Whetstone Jr., St. John's, Pi
Grove

Pittsburgh
Julius J. Chernok, Redeemer, Pittsburgh
George G. Curry, St. Paul's, Rochester

North Carolina
Claude Canup, Bethany, Kannapolis
Harry Faggart, St. Mark's, Charlotte
Robert A. Harkey, Mrs. R. A. Harke
Charlotte
Loyd D. Hunter, Mrs. Loyd D. Hunte
Charlotte

South Carolina
Harry E. Moose, South Carolina ULCM

Texas and Louisiana
A. M. Albrecht, St. Andrew's, Weesatch
Texas

APPLICATION BLANK

Honorary Life and In Memoriam Membership

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH MEN

Date .....

Check One: Life Membership $10.00 ☐ In Memoriam $50.00 ☐ Transfer $40.00 ☐

Name .....

Address .....

Presented by .....

Society and Church .....

Send Certificate to .....

Citation .....

Sent by .....

Address .....

Mail this application together with check or money order to cover desired certificate directly to William Shetlock, 22 S. Fourth St., Coplay, Pa., and certificate and lapel emblem or pin will be sent immediately to the address above.

Three Highly Recommended Books for Laymen

The Executive Secretary highly recommends these three books for reading by ULCM leaders and others:

1. A THEOLOGY OF THE LAITY, Kraemer $3
2. THE CHRISTIAN'S CALLING, Heiges $2
3. THE COURAGE TO CARE, Sherman 75c

These books are available through the United Lutheran Publication House.

Goals & Guides From BSM

The Board of Social Missions recently mailed to all ULCA pastors a booklet entitled, "Goals and Guides for Christian Service in the Congregation." For the first time, we believe, a program of service to people with varying needs has been compiled for the congregation's use. The booklet calls for a Congregational Committee, in which the auxiliaries have membership. This is an area that the congregational ULCM should support. If men need "work" to do in the life of the congregation, participation in the *Christian Service* of the congregation provides ample opportunities. Here are the goals:

1. A congregation alert, alive, and sensitive to its responsibility for Christian service
2. A congregational committee on social missions which has responsibility for Christian service as part of its function
3. To plan a Christian service program in the congregation
4. To provide training and guidance for persons and groups giving Christian service
5. To achieve high quality and good continuity in Christian service
6. To work cooperatively as an identifiable Christian congregation with other groups and agencies serving persons in need
7. To alert the congregation to its responsibility for preventing and removing the causes of need in the community through effective social action.

The ULCM might very well approach the Church Council to determine the areas in which it can be of real assistance in the Christian Service program of the congregation.

Ga-Ala Meets In Columbus

"I refuse to represent United Lutheran Crutch Men," said ULCM Treasurer Eugene H. Kelchner at the *Georgia-Alabama ULCM* convention in January at St. Matthew's, Columbus, Ga. Theme of the meeting was "Men of Responsibility." Banquet speaker was Dr. George F. Hart, pastor of St. Mark's, Huntsville, Ala. Vesper Service preacher was Synod President Raymond D. Wood; liturgist was Pastor Richard Hollinger of the host church. Official greetings were extended the convention by Dr. William Gnann, ULCM president at St. Matthew's.

A Manpower Mobilization Program, as presented by Dave Blomstrom and J. H. Oetgen, both of Atlanta, was adopted as a pilot project, later to be considered for adoption by the international ULCM.

The Sermon's Place in Worship

by ALBERT H. KECK, JR.

This topic discusses the place of the sermon in The Service. It begins with the admission that sermons are not always as effective as they should be. The fault can be laid at two doorsteps: that of the pastor, and that of the hearer.

The topic then proceeds to discuss means by which hearers may improve their ability to listen to and heed sermons. Five clear steps in this direction are described: (1) Understanding the relation of the sermon to The Service; (2) Understanding the nature and structure of a sermon; (3) Preparing to hear a sermon; (4) Listening to a sermon; (5) Responding to a sermon. All sorts of practical hints to achieve these ends are included.

DR. JOHN WATSON, noted Scotch preacher who was known as one of the great preachers of all time and who wrote under the pen name of Ian Maclaren, wrote, "The sermon is the most critical and influential event in the religious week." Though we shall see that we will want to temper this statement in the light of our understanding of the sermon as a part of the service of worship, it points to the importance of the sermon. It is estimated that at least 300,000 sermons are preached in America on any given Sunday.

What Good are They?

But what comes of all these sermons? The answer is, in one sense, a great deal. Souls are saved. Lives are changed. Guidance, comfort, and strength are imparted. Benefits come to individuals, families, communities, nations, and the world. But this is not the whole answer. Many feel that the impact of all these sermons week after week is not as great as it should be. This feeling is evident in these words from the "Worship Notebook" of Dr. Edgar S. Brown, Jr., executive director of the ULCA Department of Worship, which appears in *The Lutheran* (March 20, 1957): "It is strange therefore th in a day so full of immorality on o hand and religious popularity on t other, the potent weapon of preaching h such little effect. Why . . . do crim mental sickness and marital infidelity sc to new records? Why, with a larg church membership exposed weekly the preaching of our pastors, is there marked effect upon piety?"

It is easy, of course, to make some a swers to such judgments if one wants avoid further pursuit of the matter a disclaim any responsibility. Both past and people may say that the fruits preaching are God's responsibility, r man's. Or one may point out that thou much more is to be desired, we cann know how much worse things would were it not for the benefits of these s mons. But the responsible Christian c not be content with such answers. W therefore, seek to go further.

Most of us are aware that we do r profit as we should and could from s

Pastor Keck serves St. Andrew's Luthe Church, Lenoir Rhyne College, Hick North Carolina. This is the Inter-Luthe topic for May.

ions we hear. Even a casual bit of esearch reveals that we do not long remember much about sermons we have eard. Does this not indicate that the influence was not strong? If we do not ecall the purpose of the sermon is it kely that the purpose was realized in our ves? Though we may know that in some eneral and vague manner we enjoyed it, ere inspired, were lifted up, or were nt away with a good feeling, unless we in point to specifics we have not received hat we should. How are we different, t better, or stronger? What change has een sought or effected in feeling, in will, attitude, in relationships? We should e able to answer these questions.

Whose Fault is it?

If we admit that preaching does not ave the effect it should have, where is ie fault? Dr. Brown suggests some possibilities: "Are the pew-sitters being lulled to complacency by pious platitudes? re the sermon subjects unrelated to life? religion being sold as a sort of heaven- life-insurance? Do preachers talk over ie heads of their people? Are they fearful lest they offend a prominent member?" Was Dr. Joseph Sittler, Lutheran theologian and teacher of the University of Chicago's Federated Theological Faculty, right when he charged that there's more understanding of man's ethical problems in a television Western like *Gunsmoke* than there is in most sermons? These statements seem to suggest that the preacher is at fault.

While there is undoubtedly some truth to these statements, we dare not forget that there is also another side of the coin. Frequently the hearers too seem to be at fault. Is it not true that many times laymen come to be entertained by a sermon? They resent the pastor and his preaching if he dares to suggest that they have been less than perfect. Many expect that their own particular interest—politics, drama, juvenile delinquency, the high cost of living—be the central theme of the sermon each time they attend a service. There are others who are disturbed when their particular point of view is challenged. And how often the wisdom of God's truth is left behind in the pew as the worshiper leaves the church, just as the Sunday bulletin is discarded on the floor!

Whose fault is it? Is the fault to be found in the preacher or in the hearer? In

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

LUTHERAN MEN, 231 Madison Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

Enclosed find $..... , or bill me ....., for ..... year's subscription to LUTHERAN MEN.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....

I am a member of .....
(church) (location)

The Inter-Lutheran Topic for May

Aims

1. To help the men appreciate the function of the sermon in public worship.
2. To discuss the relative importance of the sermon.
3. To guide the men to a fruitful hearing of the sermon.
4. To explain to the men how they can help the pastor in his preaching.

Suggestions for a Devotional Service

Hymn: "God's word is our great heritage" (No. 257, *Service Book and Hymnal*)
Scripture Readings: Matthew 7:24-27; Mark 4:1-9; Romans 10:14-17
Prayer: SBH, p. 222, Number 27
Hymn: "Thy word, O Lord, like gentle dews" (No. 254)
The Topic and Discussion

Questions for Discussion

1. Would it be valuable for the pastor to state, "The sermon will be based on this lesson," before reading the Old Testament, Epistle, or Gospel lesson in The Service? Would this be helpful enough to justify the variation from the rubrics?
2. Is the announcement of a sermon topic at least a week ahead helpful?
3. How important are sermon titles? Do they help to draw people to church? Do they arouse curiosity or interest? Do they stimulate thinking about the subject? Can they detract from the sermon?
4. Discuss the following opinion of Dr. Gould Wickey: the church needs to bother less about her preachers knowing the fine points of theology and to be far more concerned than she is to have preachers who can use the king's English in a way that will make intelligible the theology they already know.
5. How valid are the commonly expressed concerns about sermon length?
6. Is it good to say, "I enjoyed the sermon"?

the sermon, or in the listening? All these and other factors are probably responsible. But recognizing these faults and merely complaining about them will serve no real purpose. We need something to remedy the situation. Let us look at some facts which should help us in this direction.

The Sermon is Part of The Service

First, we need to understand the place of the sermon in our Lutheran worship. It is a part of The Service. It is to be understood in relation to the other parts. All the parts are vital. All must be understood and be shared in if any part, including the sermon, is to be meaningful. Because the sermon is to be understood as a part of our service rather than something which stands alone, Lutheran preaching is sometimes called "liturgi preaching." This means that it is prea ing in the context of a liturgy or a c stant and ordered service. That this und standing of the sermon is different fr some others is evident when we know t in some churches people speak of go to church to hear the sermon or preacher whereas Lutherans prope speak of going to church to worship. T sermon is part of it.

It follows from this that to unc stand and to get the most from the mon we need to understand the wh service. To the degree that we unc stand and participate in The Service w its confession, absolution, praise, pra lessons, hymns, offerings, sacraments, benedictions, we will appreciate the

ion. For this is all preparation for and esponse to the sermon, in one sense, hough this must not be construed to ean that the sermon is the most im-ortant part of The Service. Our concern hould be to understand and share in The ervice as a whole, whose every part is nportant.

What is a Sermon?

The second helpful step is to under-and the nature and structure of a ser-on. It makes a great difference in what ou receive if you think of the sermon "a talk by the preacher" rather than living proclamation and message from e living God. There are many defini-ons and descriptions of sermons. I have list of forty from various sources. It clear in all of them that the sermon not just a few remarks, a few sugges-ons, a bit of good advice, or anything that kind from the thinking of the eacher. In some manner the following ctors must come together to define and escribe a sermon: oral communication .e. spoken and heard); proclaiming and applying the Word of God as essentially revealed in the person and work of Jesus Christ; in the context of The Service; by one called by the church; for the purpose of creating and confirming saving faith.

Each of these factors is important and should be studied and understood if the sermon is to be meaningful. Only this view of a sermon will enable us to expect and receive something more than moral-izing, pious counsel, or popular lectures. This will insure relevancy at all times and in all places. This understanding of what a sermon is will, as we shall see, affect the approach and preparation of the wor-shiper who earnestly desires to receive all that is possible in the worship ex-perience.

The Importance of Structure

It will be helpful, too, to know some-thing of the structure of a sermon. Per-haps you think this is the preacher's busi-ness, not yours. Or you may assume that one simple formula takes care of every-thing—a sermon has three points! Neither of these assumptions is true. It has been

Truly I'd serve Thee-

by clothing them

through

WORLD RELIEF

15th and Elm Streets • Easton, Pa.

Every ULCM officer
needs the
ULCM HANDBOOK
Loose leaf, fully indexed, 175
pages of printed material.
$3.50 a copy
ORDER FROM
United Lutheran Church Men
231 Madison Ave.
New York 16, N. Y.

proven in many cases that though the preacher must study and know much more about structure than the hearer, some basic knowledge concerning structure will enable the hearer to follow and understand the sermon much more effectively. The listener will gain more from any sermon by looking for certain elements which should be present.

Normally there will be an introduction, the body of the sermon consisting of one or more main points, and a conclusion. It will be helpful to watch for these parts for each has an important function. Often the purpose of the sermon will be stated and restated. It may be as obvious as, "It will be my purpose this morning to . . ." In other cases it will be less obvious, but there nonetheless. If you watch for this you will be able to follow the sermon better and will be able to respond more intelligently. The subject of the sermon will often be suggested in the title and stated in a theme sentence. That is what the sermon is about and every hearer needs to have this in mind.

It is helpful to remember that sometimes the divisions of a sermon are found or followed directly from a text. The order may be changed for reasons of logic or effectiveness but the main points will be there. In other cases the subje is drawn from the text but the divisio come from the subject. In any case o should seek to note and follow the patte of divisions or main points and su points. These again may be made obvio by direct statement of them in the intr duction and repetition of them in t body and again in the conclusion. Th may be introduced by first, second, a third. But they may not be made t obvious. There will be cases, too, whe intentionally or unintentionally there no pattern of divisions.

One should know, too, that logic, illu trations, evidences, and such materials a used to prove, enlarge, make clear, a make attractive the points which are p sented. Thoughful listening with ev this much knowledge of sermon structu will help the hearer benefit from t sermon.

Prepare to Hear a Sermon?

The third step to more profitable rec tion of sermons is preparation. All t has been said thus far is part of t preparation but there must be spec application of it and further work, t We think of pastors preparing for s mons but too seldom do we think of hearers preparing for them. You may be able to put the same amount of t into preparation which the pastor spen but you should put in some time. Te mony abounds to the benefits which a from this discipline.

Begin with prayer. Pray week a week at home as well as in church the pastor and his sermon preparat and delivery, for the congregation their worship, and for your own un standing and responsiveness. Read study the Epistle and Gospel lessons you have no *Service Book and Hymna* home make a list of the lessons for

ar or a month or season ahead. Read e lessons on Monday and study and nder them for the week. Use different anslations or helps in Bible study to in a better understanding of the sec- ns. As you study ask the sort of ques- ns which should be asked in Bible udy. How does this speak to me and y life? What does it offer for me to im? What command is here for me to ey? What example for me to follow? hat mistake or sin to avoid? You may en try to anticipate the subject which e pastor will draw from this for his rmon on Sunday. In any case, if he eaches on one of the lessons you will ow much which will cause the sermon be more meaningful. Even if he does t choose his text from the Epistle or e Gospel, your time will not have been sted. The study of God's Word always ars fruit.

Perhaps toward the end of the week e sermon title will appear on the bulle- n board or in the newspaper. Think this subject. Relate it in your own ind to the lessons and the season. In l these ways you will be helping in the eparation of the sermon. Then will fol- w the immediate preparation of worship The Service when by active and intelli- nt participation in every part of The rvice you are truly a worshiper and not erely a listener.

Hearing and Receiving

A fourth step toward more profitable ception of the sermon involves the re- ption itself. This begins with prayer, brief but earnest arrow prayer, in the oment before the first word is spoken. hen anticipation, eager and alert, should eet the beginning.

Immediate attention is also imperative. ould you believe that some pastors spend at least thirty minutes working on the first sentence of a sermon? Some give half that time to the first word! Back of this is the conviction that unless the attention of some is gained at the outset it may never be gained. Introductions are important and serve several purposes. To fail to give close attention at the start is unfortunate. In the light of the crucial nature of the minutes in the week given to hearing God's Word this failure is tragic.

To this attention and interest must be added throughout the sermon the discipline of thought and concentration. Sermons are not entertainment. They are not performances. How difficult it is for us who are so molded by TV, book digests, short and pointed advertising, and the lack of strong thinking about great issues, to think and concentrate in sermon reception. No matter how pleasant and easy the pastor may try to make your listening, by careful preparation in structure, illustrative materials, and good style, sermon reception is still difficult. Though the truths and facts are such that all may receive them savingly, many factors in our nature, conditioning, and attitudes work against easy reception.

Each of us knows the problem of mind

THE CHURCH AND HER WORK
a new set of ten programs for your men's meetings on the work of the BOARDS AND AGENCIES OF THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
75c per copy

POWER THROUGH WORSHIP
Booklet of Topics
50c

order from:
United Lutheran Church Men
231 Madison Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

COLLECTION PLATES

Beautiful light and dark color plastic plates. Large 12 inch durable with maroon or green felt pad. Guaranteed satisfaction only $6 for light and $5 for dark plate. Order from your Book Store or direct. World Wide Collection Plate Company, Fairfield, Ala.

wandering. The only solution is disciplined concentration. This comes with practice and with the application of the elements of preparation and reception we have been considering. Other aids will be the remembrance that you are listening for *God's* Word for you. You will want to make constant personal application as the thrusts of the "sharp edged sword" or the gift-laden arms of the Word come toward you. You will be intent on seeing your Savior more clearly, knowing yourself more truly, and discerning God's will for you more honestly.

And what if there seems to be nothing here for you? Surely, you will be patient and understanding. That which seems to have no meaning for you at the moment may become extremely important and relevant in a few hours or a few days. Further, your patience is called for since one of your fellow worshipers may be finding that this sermon is precisely God's Word to his need at this moment.

When is a Sermon Finished?

The last step for more profitable reception of sermons is that of completion or fulfilment. A sermon is not ended when the pastor stops preaching or we stop listening. There must always be response. It will be at least the thank giving and dedication of what follo in The Service. Continued thinking w be part of it. You will do this for yo self. Perhaps you will want to disc certain things with the pastor or w others. There should be no "roast prea er" for Sunday dinner, but what bet thing could a family do than to disc the thoughts of the sermon, seeking find their application to their own liv

Thinking and discussion, however, not enough. Some of us are fond of c cussing things but reluctant to do a thing. Dr. J. S. Whale, an English t ologian, speaks of this as an Ameri failing and pointedly states that if were confronted with two doors mar "Heaven" and "Discussion about He en," we would go in the latter and wo not, therefore, enter heaven! It is g to recall the conclusion to the Serm on the Mount, the story of the wise foolish builders. By this our Lord sou to emphasize the right response to Word. That response is not merely f ing better, not only saying nice thi about what we have heard, not only cussion. That response dare not be a thing less than the doing of the W Repent, believe, be baptized, go tell, g pray, forgive, be a better husband parent, be honest in your work and b ness—these are the kinds of respo needed.

Perhaps you began this topic by covering how little of sermons we ret By taking the steps we have discu here it is quite probable that we remember more. It is not that we concerned about remembering for its sake. This will be a by-product. The portant thing is that only thus does Word have good opportunity to work grow fruitfully in us.

Now in English!

FRIEDEMANN BACH

The exciting, unusually candid life story of the genius, ill-fated son of the composer. Masterfully translated from the original German of A. E. Brachvogel. $3.00

Translated by Emanuel W. Hammer, Protestant Chaplain, VA Hospital, Northport, (L. I.) N. Y.

PAGEANT PRESS, Inc. 101 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. 3

Suggestions for the Leader

It would be helpful to clear up immedi-ely one important point. It is not the intent this topic to discuss the proficiency of ur pastor in preaching. The menu for the ening does not include "roast pastor." our pastor is well aware of the problems at exist in preaching. The intent of this pic is rather to assist laymen to become tter *hearers* of sermons. There is much to done in this area; all need knowledge of at to do, and how to prepare themselves be better hearers. The material is filled th very practical suggestions on how to velop one's "hearing ability."

Begin your meeting by asking the men your group to share some of their experi-ces and memories with you. Ask them ether they can remember any sermon ustration or sermon which they heard more an ten years ago. Do any remember the mon which was preached on the occasion their confirmation? Perhaps one of the n was particularly moved by a sermon heard. Encourage him to relate his ex-rience on that occasion.

After having allowed enough time for dis-sion of sermons heard over ten years ago, to bring the group to a discussion of re recent sermons. Does anyone recall any mon or illustration used in the past year? hat was the text and subject of the most ent sermon they heard? What were the in points of the pastor's sermon on the ceding Sunday?

t should be apparent by this time that st of us have only spotty recollections of mons we have heard. This gives you the ening you need to present the resource terial printed. Be sure to read the material efully before the meeting begins, so that u will be able to present the topic with ne freedom. A very brief outline of the e steps recommended for improving one's aring ability" is presented in the intro-tory statement. Use this as a guide in senting the ideas to your group in your n words.

Encourage the men to introduce comments l questions as you proceed. Try to develop ther discussion after you have presented resource material to them. If they have questions to offer, use some of the ques-ns suggested.

UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH MEN
The Men's Auxiliary of the ULCA
231 Madison Avenue
New York 16

Officers

President: AUBREY MAUNEY
210 North Gaston St.
Kings Mountain, N.C.

First Vice President: J. H. OETGEN
401 Georgia Savings Bank Bldg.
Atlanta, Ga.

Second Vice President: J. RUSSELL BARLEY
1040 Turnpike St.
Beaver, Pa.

Third Vice President: EARL FREESE, L.H.D.
113 Dake St.
Rochester 17, N.Y.

Secretary: RICHARD H. SNELL
320-A Summit
West Reading, Pa.

Treasurer: EUGENE H. KELCHNER
4703 Sherwood Ter.
Merchantville, N.J.

Members-at-large
Term expiring 1961

MERWYN C. FUSS
316 East Baltimore St.
Taneytown, Md.

M. R. HENNIGER
1004 East 38th St.
Austin, Tex.

THE REV. FRANKLIN L. JENSEN
433 Seminole Dr.
Erie, Pa.

HANS P. TREUENFELS, LL.D.
217 West Rocks Rd.
Norwalk, Conn.

THE REV. LESTER M. UTZ
6909 East Kellogg
Wichita, Kan.

Term expiring 1963

MARVIN BARNETT
5632 Miami
Omaha, Neb.

THE REV. MAYNARD HALLOCK
301 North Second St.
Pottsville, Pa.

HOWARD HERTER
18 Ezra Ave.
Waterloo, Ontario

OSCAR LINGLE
4840 Smith St.
Harrisburg, Pa.

THE REV. LEELAND C. SOKER, D.D.
2291 Bellaire St.
Denver 7, Colo.

Executive Secretary

HOWARD L. LOGAN
231 Madison Ave.
New York 16, N.Y.

APEX *Quality paperbound books*

Here I Stand
ROLAND H. BAINTON

This is one of the most accurate and readable accounts ever written of the life and works of Martin Luther. It is an invaluable contribution to our knowledge of the great Reformation period and the part Luther played in the Protestant movement. **D1 $1.75**

Our Roving Bible
LAWRENCE E. NELSON

Here is a lively account of how the Scriptures have influenced our customs, attitudes, and culture through the ages. It presents evidence that for centuries the Bible has shaped English and American thinking in more ways and to a greater extent than has been realized. **D3 $1.50**

Paul
EDGAR J. GOODSPEED

A vivid and interesting biography of the apostle Paul drawn from evidence in his own writings. One sees Paul as a man of action moving about the Roman Empire making the Christian gospel known to Jews and Greeks as far as he could travel. **D2 $1.25**

The Paradoxes of Jesus
RALPH W. SOCKMAN

Puzzled minds will find understanding of many of Jesus' sayings and parables, as discussed in this book by Dr. Sockman. Apt illustrations by the author contribute to the layman's examination of the scriptures. **D4 $1.25**

Christian Symbolism in the Evangelical Churches
THOMAS ALBERT STAFFORD

An illustrated study of the art forms and Christian symbols that have become a part of protestant Christianity down through the ages. **D5 $1.25**

Psychology, Religion, and Healing
LESLIE D. WEATHERHEAD

A sound and thorough survey of methods of healing, including a critical study of their principles, techniques, and ultimate values. This book will help the layman who wants to understand how religion and psychology work together in curing physical and spiritual ills. **D6 $1.75**

ORDER FROM YOUR BOOKSTORE

Abingdon Press

PUBLISHER OF THE INTERPRETER'S BIBLE

Outstanding record in 1959

- INCREASED BUSINESS. We issued $8,291,112 more life insurance than the previous year, an increase of 12.8%. Evidence of the confidence people have in our product and our company.
- INSURANCE IN FORCE. Lutherans now own well over a half billion dollars of Lutheran Mutual life insurance.
- ASSETS. Our assets now total $108,518,920, an increase of almost $10,000,000 in the past year.
- INCOME. Total for 1959 was $18,722,180, up from $16,986,885 in 1958.
- SURPLUS FUNDS. An important part in the stability of any life insurance company is surplus. Our unassigned surplus is now $8,590,072.
- RESERVE FOR DIVIDENDS. A low mortality rate, conservative management and a favorable return on investments enables us to set aside almost 14% of our total 1959 income for 1960 dividends.

Lutheran Mutual LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Home Office ■ Waverly, Iowa

PACIFIC LUTHERAN THEO.SEM.
2770 MARIN AVE.
BERKELEY 8, CALIF.

When you know
you must provide,

Brotherhood Provider gives you:

For your family — $10,000 cash plus $100 monthly income

Because you are a Lutheran, you can own this Brotherhood Provider Plan with Family Protection Benefit and at remarkably favorable rates. Now you can provide for family protection, education, investment and retirement, in one well-planned package. Look what the Brotherhood Provider with Family Protection Benefit gives you:

- $10,000 of permanent, dividend-paying life insurance.
- If you die within the first 20 years, your family gets $10,000 in cash; plus $100 a month income for the remainder of the 20 year period.
- If you retire at 65, you can get $12,059* in cash. (Based on age 25.)
- If you are totally disabled before 60, we pay all future premiums.

The extra $100 monthly income goes to your family for an investment now of only 12¢ per day *more* than the *main premium.* This Family Protection Benefit is one of the most remarkable life insurance values offered today.

Call your Lutheran Brotherhood counselor for full details. Join the thousands of Lutherans who enjoy security and peace of mind in the bond of Lutheran Brotherhood.

**Based on current dividend rate, which is not guaranteed.*

LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD Life Insurance

A legal reserve life insurance society • 701 Second Avenue So., Minneapolis 2, Minn.

free Full-color reproduction of Martin Luther window (18" x 24"), suitable for framing and display in home or classroom. Send your name and address today.